

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 19-832V

UNPUBLISHED

ASHLEE RODRIGUEZ,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: October 7, 2020

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;
Table Injury; Influenza (Flu) Vaccine;
Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine
Administration (SIRVA)

Ronald Craig Homer, Conway, Homer, P.C., Boston, MA, for petitioner.

Sarah Black Rifkin, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On June 5, 2019, Ashlee Rodriguez filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (SIRVA) as a result of receiving an influenza (flu) vaccination on October 17, 2018. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On October 5, 2020, Respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent’s Rule 4(c) Report at 1. Specifically, Respondent states that it is his position that Petitioner “has satisfied the criteria set forth in the recently revised Vaccine Injury Table (‘Table’) and the

¹ Because this unpublished ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the ruling will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

Qualifications and Aids to Interpretation ('QAI'), which afford [P]etitioner a presumption of causation if the onset of SIRVA occurs less than 48 hours after a seasonal flu vaccination and there is no apparent alternative cause." *Id.* at 5. Respondent further agrees that "[t]he scope of damages to be awarded is limited to [P]etitioner's SIRVA and its related sequelae only." *Id.*

In view of Respondent's position and the evidence of record, I find that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran

Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master